Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Sunday 27 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Monday 28 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Saturday 26 Dec 2020 at 10:21

Confidence: High for cold conditions throughout the period but lower confidence for details regarding snow showers.

Headline for Sunday 27 Dec 2020: Cold and windy with snow showers.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 27 Dec 2020

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Heavy Snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
>95%	70%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%

Forecast for Sunday 27 Dec 2020

Weather: Heavy rain at midnight, with snow above 600m, clearing in the early hours. A bitterly cold day with bright intervals and snow showers, but mainly falling as sleet below 200m. Some showers could be heavy with hail and a low risk of thunder. Strong winds with occasional blizzard conditions on the high fell tops.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30%. Cloud bases highly variable but occasionally lowering to around 400m in showers. Best chance of clear tops over far eastern fells.

Visibility: Fast-changing as showers move through. Often down to a few hundred metres or less in low cloud and snow showers. Bursts of good visibility between showers.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Sunday 27 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	50/66 SW	39/50 W	32/42 W	30/40 W	27/37 SW	25/33 W	19/23 SW	19/24 S	19/24 SE
600	42/59 SW	33/46 W	25/37 W	25/36 W	24/34 SW	21/30 W	14/21 SW	16/22 S	17/23 SE
300	19/47 SW	15/38 W	11/30 W	11/29 W	11/27 W	10/24 W	6/17 SW	6/17 S	8/18 SE
Valley	21/46 SW	16/37 W	13/29 W	14/30 W	12/27 W	11/23 W	7/17 SW	7/17 S	9/18 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-10	-3/-12	-4/-13	-4/-13	-3/-11	-4/-12	-4/-11	-4/-10	-4/-10
600	2/-6	-0/-8	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-8	-2/-7	-2/-7	-2/-8
300	4/-1	2/-3	1/-3	1/-3	1/-3	1/-4	0/-2	0/-3	-1/-4
Valley	6/2	4/-0	4/-0	4/-0	4/-0	3/-1	3/0	3/-0	2/-2
Freezing Level*	900m	500m	300m	400m	400m	400m	300m	300m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A return to full winter conditions on Sunday. Sudden gusts of 50mph in showers during the morning. Storm force winds on the tops overnight, easing by the morning.

Forecast for Monday 28 Dec 2020

Weather: Sleet or snow showers overnight and at first in the morning then becoming dry through the morning with bright spells. A few light snow showers in the afternoon, mainly across eastern fells.

Maximum wind: East or northeast 15-20mph. Severe wind chill.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% early morning with extensive cloud above 600m. Becoming 80% through the morning with cloud lifting above summits. Patchy cloud on the tops in the afternoon.

Visibility: Very poor on high ground overnight and early morning. Becoming very good with just temporary reductions in snow showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 1C rising to 3 or 4C, falling to Minus 1C in evening.
At 800m: Minus 2 or 3C.
Freezing level: 300m.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Saturday 26 December Location: Helvellyn summit at 13:30 Temperature: plus 0.2degC Maximum wind speed 59.9mph Wind chill: minus 10.0degC Average wind speed: 40.8mph Full report: The great snow conditions from the last couple of days are rapidly thawing as the freezing level rose above the summits and a strong SW wind brought rain at all levels. The remaining snow can generally be found above 650m on S through W facing slopes. However where it has been compressed beneath walkers feet icy patches can be found on paths down to 500m. Above 950m there was still some rime ice holding on but generally everything was soft, slushy and thawing fast. The walking routes from Thirlmere can generally be climbed without setting on foot on snow with some careful route choice. Microspikes were the best option today giving good traction on Striding & Swirral Edges which were a combination of slush & wet rock. However if the freezing level does drop then all these saturated snow patches will quickly refreeze forming neve on which crampons & an ice axe will be essential for safety on these and other exposed routes. There were a number of groups heading up the mountain late in the day with minimal kit and unsuitable clothing & footwear. Sunset is currently around 3.50pm so starting early and carrying a head torch along with plenty of warm and waterproof clothing and a map & compass is to be recommended. Googles were also a very useful addition today to help deal with the 60mph winds and driving rain.

Issued at: 1800 on Sat 26 Dec 2020

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